

Some people walk on the shady side of the street and shiver with cold when they could as easily walk on the side where the sun shines and be more comfortable. They do not look up.

A good friend upon being sick was lamenting because of his afflictions when his wife, one of those upward looking souls said, "It might be a great deal worse. You do not suffer great pain as many sick people do."

Looking up is a manifestation of the soul seeking for divine guidance and help. Happy is the man who takes the Lord as a silent partner in all the affairs of life. Many a man would be heartily ashamed to have Jesus as a partner in their business. Yet they have the temerity to ask his blessing upon themselves and also proffer to his service the proceeds of such business. Thinkest thou that the Lord would bless a business transaction in which he himself would take no part? Can he bless the doer if he bless not the deed?

Things go wrong even when we have used our best judgment and skill. Then is a most opportune time to *look up*. Business has gone wrong. Look up! Possibly the Lord has taken away your gourd that he himself might be your shade. Domestic affairs are in a tangle. Look up that the Lord may set you right. If husbands and wives, instead of looking at petty grievances, at their mistakes and follies, would bow before God and look up there would be less for the courts to do, but there would be more united hearts and happy homes.

If life seems dreary and the years drag heavily, look up. Times there are when sin seems overwhelming, even appalling; when in spite of Bible, church and pulpit, in spite of entreaties, prayers and tears, the tide of evil rises higher and we feel that all efforts are in vain; the world is going down with the deep dark to endless woe. In such an hour, look up. God is on his throne. He sees and knows it all. His everlasting arms will hold thee up while he suffers long and is kind that he may lead sinners to repent. The day of his wrath will come and sin shall be forever banished from the universe of God.

Looking indicates the direction in which we are going. Every setting sun brings us nearer the end of life's pilgrimage. From the rising to the setting of the sun we have been going in the direction of our looking. Have our eyes looked each day up to God and the house of many mansions?

"In the morning said the psalmist, 'I will direct my prayer unto thee, and will look up.' What helpfulness, what joyful anticipation of a day's walk with the Lord and a day's journey toward the Father's house when we begin each day by prayer and the upward look. When the days are thus begun and continued He who careth for his own will not forsake us nor fail us, for every good and perfect gift cometh from above. What comes from Him while we are on the upward way are but so many messengers which tell

of a Father's love and a Father's welcome when we get home.

Look up and like Hagar you shall find wells of water for thy thirst. Look up and the Lord will reveal himself to your soul as he did to Moses. Look up and like Joshua you will see the angel of the Lord ready to help fight the battle of life. Look up in the midst of persecution and like Stephen you shall behold the waiting Christ. Look up and keep thy face toward the city of the king, for behold He cometh and thy redemption draweth nigh.

THE CHURCH PAPER

J. C. MACKEY, D. D.

We learn with regret that the editor of our EVANGELIST is obliged to make urgent calls for literary contributions and church news. This is not as it ought to be. In every religious body there is an important and influential sphere for the press. Nothing has done more to usher in the era of modern civilization and free education than this department of literature; and any organization that will belittle or disregard such an agency must soon find itself falling behind. The church paper is the unifying and inspiring leader in denominational work. One minister may bravely hold up the standard an hour or two each week to those who consent to put themselves to the inconvenience of going to hear him preach—and this only in one community. The church paper goes into every community, entering the homes and making its appeals to all. If there is a reason for the existence of a particular denomination of Christians in a special tenet, testimony or line of work—the church paper is the only agency which can possibly keep these important facts before the minds of the people.

The paper is the court in which proper questions are discussed and correct conclusions obtained. It is the only power that can maintain an adequate denominational spirit of steadfastness to principle and zeal in progressive service. Just in proportion as the churches have made use of this means of strength and influence, in like proportion has been their success or failure.

But while this is true of denominations in general it is more especially true of our own in particular. Our congregations are scattered far and wide. Many of our members have never seen each other. Some churches are almost entirely cut off from contact with others. In this condition the EVANGELIST is the forum where we meet and become acquainted with those geographically far from us. But for the EVANGELIST we would scarcely know of the existence of many of our congregations.

It is seldom, if ever the case, that a paper succeeds in wielding all the influence of which it is capable. There is always room for improvement; and if any one is in any sense dissatisfied with the EVANGELIST he has the best kind of an argument for putting out his hand, and helping to make it better.

The EVANGELIST is *ours*. It does not belong to the editor; and none would be more happy I am sure than the editor if we were to decide that hereafter we shall issue a larger and better church organ.

We have no figures in the case, but we think we are safe in saying that no one in the church during the past twenty years, has sacrificed as much in the effort to give the Brethren church a good, clean periodical, than the several editors, and their associates, in the two decades named. They have merited applause, not criticism. They have stood true to our principles. They have done much to introduce a new era of mission life. They have raised aloft the banner of truth. No one who really reads the EVANGELIST can question the sincerity of its purpose, nor the assiduity of the toil of those who plan its pages. If our people will carefully read every copy of the church paper which shall be published until the close of 1901; if they will do all in their power to increase its influence and circulation; if they will contribute news and thought as they ought, I assure you that the EVANGELIST will grow to all that could be desired, and the church become conscious of the pulse throb of a new life within her. Other papers are good, large, attractive; but our own, with all that may be said in passing criticism, is *first, SAFE, SOUND*.

Come, let us drop our cavilling and carping objections, and unite in a strong and faithful effort to make the EVANGELIST all that the most sanguine could wish.

COMFORT ONE ANOTHER

S. KEIHL

There is none to comfort me, Lam. 1:21. Let thy merciful kindness comfort me, Psal. 119:76. Thou shalt comfort me on every side, Psal. 71:21. Blessed be God, even the God of all comfort, II Cor. 1:3. He hath sent me to comfort all that mourn, Isa. 61:2. Comfort ye my people, saith your God Isa. 40:1. Comfort the feeble-minded, I Thess. 5:14.

There are many opportunities for Christian work along this line. A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver, Prov. 25:11. Only one word about Jesus, love may bring joy and gladness into the heart of the weary and despondent pilgrim on his journey heavenward.

Do you want a subject concerning our risen Lord to comfort a fellow traveler whose only hope for salvation rests upon the merits of Christ and the mercy of God? It is written, the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words, I Thess. 4:16-18.

Dayton, Ohio.